

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SANTO 04492 152045Z  
ACTION SS-25

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 4492

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-4  
TAGS: PINT, DR  
SUBJECT: NEIT NIVAR'S MESSAGE TO ANTONIO GUZMAN

REFS: A) STATE 203295; B) SANTO DOMINGO 4075

1. EVENING OF AUGUST 14 EMBOFF MET WITH MGEN NEIT NIVAR SEIJAS AT LATTER'S REQUEST. THE EX-CHIEF OF POLICE AND PRESENT COMMANDER OF ARMY'S FIRST BRIGADE WANTED TO TALK TO EMBOFF, WHOM HE CONSIDERS CHANNEL TO PRES-ELECT ANTONIO GUZMAN, BEFORE GUZMAN'S INAUGURATION TOMORROW. MEETING ARRANGED BY MUTUAL POLITICAL FRIENDS.

2. DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE II SEMI-PRIVACY OF NIVAR'S HOME DURING LARGE PARTY CELEBRATING THE GENERAL'S BIRTHDAY AND THE PRESENCE OF SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF POLICE CHIEFS, HERE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FESTIVITIES (CONTRARY TO INFORMATION GIVEN TO DEPT BY IAPC WASHINGTON OFFICE AND FORWARDED IN REF A).

3. LARGELY IGNORING HIS MANY PROMINENT GUESTS IN LIVING AREA OF HIS HOME WHILE HE AND EMBOFF TALKED IN A SITTING ROOM, NIVAR SWELT AT LENGTH ON HIS CONCERNS FOR THE FUTURE. REFERRING TO THE MANY RECENT RUMORS THAT HE WAS AN "ENEMY" OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT AND WAS PLOTTING TO MOVE  
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AGAINST IT, HE PORTRAYED HIMSELF AS A DEFENDER OF THE NEW REGIME AGAINST THOSE, NEVER NAMED, WHO WERE INDEED THREATS TO DEMOCRACY IN THIS COUNTRY.

4. HE VIEWED THE PRESENT SITUATION AS QUITE SIMILAR TO THAT OF 1963, WHEN JUAN BOSCH AND THE LAST PRD GOVERNMENT TOOK OFFICE. HE FORESAW STRAINS BETWEEN GUZMAN, WHOM HE

SAID HE CONSIDERS AN HONEST MAN AND A MODERATE, AND THE MORE RADICAL AND "COMMUNIST" ELEMENTS IN GUZMAN'S PARTY THAT COULD PRODUCE A COUP D'ETAT IN A FEW MONTHS. THIS IS WHAT HAPPENED TO BOSCH, HE SAID, WHEN THE FORMER PRESIDENT COULD NOT CONTROL EXTREMIST ELEMENTS IN THE PRD AND THE MILITARY HAD TO STEP IN TO PREVENT CHAOS OR COMMUNISM IN SEPTEMBER, 1963.

5. GUZMAN'S BEST GUARANTEE FOR SURVIVAL, NIVAR SAID, WAS HIS NIVAR'S, CONTINUED PRESENCE AT THE HEAD OF THE FIRST BRIGADE. THERE HE COULD DEFEND CONSTITUTIONALITY AND THE PRECEPT OF CIVILIAN SUPREMACY IN THE DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT, AS HE HAD DONE FOR THE PAST 12 YEARS UNDER PRESIDENT BALAGUER. (THIS WAS THE TENOR OF NIVAR'S WIDELY PUBLICIZED REMARKS EARLIER IN THE DAY DURING A CEREMONY AT FIRST BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS AT WHICH THE VISITING POLICE CHIEFS PAID HIM HOMAGE. "ON REITERATING MY THANKS TO THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE," HE SAID, "I WANT TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ASSURE THE DOMINICAN PEOPLE THAT THOSE WHO ENCOURAGE CONSPIRACIES OR HARBOR "GOLPIST" DESIGNS FOR THE FUTURE SHOULD KNOW THAT THE DOORS OF MY BARRACKS ARE CLOSED TO ALL NAMMER OF INDISCIPLINE AND TREASON." HE SAID HE WAS LOYAL TO "CIVILIAN POWER LEGITIMATELY CONSTITUTED.")

6. NIVAR THEN GOT DOWN TO WHAT WAS ON HIS MIND AND WHAT HE WANTED THE NEW PRESIDENT TO KNOW. IF, IN SPITE OF THE ADVANTAGES HE OFFERED GUZMAN IN CONTINUING TO SERVE THE CONFIDENTIAL

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GOVERNMENT, GUZMAN STILL WANTED HIM OUT, HE, AS A GOOD SOLDIER WOULD ACCEPT THE DECISION. HOWEVER, NIVAR SAID, HE WOULD NOT ACCEPT A "GOLDEN EXILE." HE WANTED TO STAY IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC WITH HIS FAMILY AND FRIENDS WHERE HE COULD DEVOTE HIMSELF TO PRIVATE AFFAIRS, WITH MINIMUM GUARANTEES HE WILL NOT BE MOLESTED IN THESE PURSUITS. HE DID NOT ELABORATE NOR DID HE SAY WHAT HE WOULD DO IF GUZMAN DOES TRY TO FORCE HIM TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.

7. EMBOFF ASKED NIVAR WHY HE DID NOT TREAT DIRECTLY WITH GUZMAN ON QUESTION OF HIS PROFESSIONAL FUTURE AND WAS TOLD SIMPLY THAT THAT WOULD BE "INCONVENIENT." EMBOFF WHEN SAID HE COULD MAKE NO COMMITMENTS BUT COULD ASSURE THE GENERAL HE UNDERSTOOD HIS ESSENTIAL MESSAGE. WITH THAT THE MEETING ENDED.

8. COMMENT: KNOWLEDGE OF THIS CONVERSATION IS NO DOUBT WIDE-SPREAD AROUND TOWN AT THIS POINT. AMBASSADOR YOST WILL BE SEEING GUZMAN THIS AFTERNOON AND WILL DESCRIBE TO HIM SUBSTANCE OF MEETING WITHOT COMMENT. WE HAVE NOT DISCUSSED WITH GUZMAN HIS INTENTIONS IN DEALING WITH NIVAR SINCE OUR CONVERSATION WITH THE PRESIDENT-ELECT ON JULY 26 (REF B). NIVAR'S STATED WILLINGNESS TO STEP ASIDE IF ORDERED TO DO

SO BY A NEW ARMED FORCES SECRETARY, YET TO BE PUBPCLY NAMED,  
SHOULD ENCOURAGE GUZMAN IN HIS DETERMINATION TO RID THE  
DOMINICAN GOVERNMENT OF AN INVETERATE TROUBLE-MAKER.  
YOST

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## Message Attributes

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